

## Preconditions for Specialist Credentials and Added Authorizations

### Reading and Literacy Added Authorization (RLAA) and the Reading and Literacy Leadership Specialist (RLLS) Credential

- (1) **Prerequisite Teaching Credential.** RLAA and/or the RLLS Credential Programs shall determine, prior to recommending a candidate for the added authorization or credential, that the candidate possesses a valid teaching credential as specified in [Education Code section 44203\(b\)](#).
- (2) **English Learner Authorization.** RLAA and/or the RLLS Credential Programs shall determine, prior to recommending a candidate for the added authorization or credential, that the candidate possesses an English Learner authorization as specified in Education Code sections [44253.1](#); [44253.2](#); [44253.3](#); [44253.4](#); [44253.5](#); [44253.6](#); [44253.10](#); or [44253.11](#).
- (3) **Basic Skills Requirement.** RLAA and/or the RLLS Credential Programs shall determine, prior to recommending a candidate for the added authorization or credential, that the candidate has met the Basic Skills Requirement as specified in [Education Code section 44252\(b\)](#), unless exempt by statute.
- (4) **Full-Time Teaching Experience.** RLAA and/or the RLLS Credential Programs shall determine, prior to recommending a candidate for the added authorization or credential, that the candidate has verified completion of three years of successful full-time teaching experience in any grades preschool through adult, exclusive of student teaching, internship teaching, or teaching while holding an emergency credential or permit.

#### *Clarification of Program Precondition 4*

**Full-Time Experience** is defined as teaching for a minimum of four hours a day, unless the minimum statutory attendance requirement for the students served is less. Experience must be on a daily basis and for at least 75% of the school year. Experience may be accrued in increments of a minimum of one semester. No part-time employment will be accepted. Experience earned outside of California must be verified on the official letterhead of the out-of-state employer or employers by the superintendent, assistant superintendent, director of personnel or human resources by which the individual was employed.

**Student Teaching** is defined as experience in a classroom or school under the direction and supervision of an experienced practitioner to complete program requirements. Other terms sometimes used include field work, field experience, directed teaching, practice teaching, practicum, etc.

- (5) **Completion of Requirements.** RLAA and/or the RLLS Credential Programs shall determine, prior to recommending a candidate for the added authorization or credential, that the candidate has completed all requirements for the Commission-approved program based on the [RLAA and/or RLSS Credential Program Standards \(rev. 03/2011\)](#).